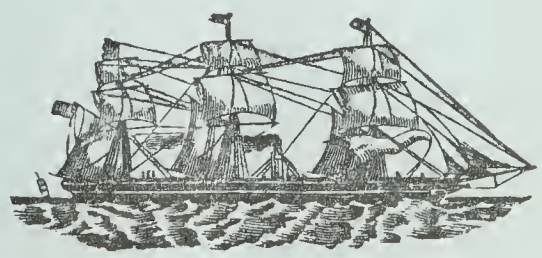
RIVER BLYTH

PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S

ANNUAL REPORT,

1914.



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Mr. J. J. HARRIS, Sanitary Inspector.

HOSPITAL STAFF—

Matron	-	Miss J. SMITH,
Nurse	-	Miss B. DINGWALL.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

River Blyth Port Sanitary Authority.

BLYTH, January, 1915.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1914.

During the year, 2562 vessels other than fishing boats arrived in the port· A systematic and careful inspection of all vessels was made on their arrival, and no case of Infectious Disease came under my notice. The weekly returns of the Local Government Board sent me are most helpful in this respect.

The trade of the port is practically the same as in former years, viz.:—The export of coal and the import of wood, which is mainly used for pit purposes. For the first seven months of the year the export of coal showed a slight increase as compared with last year, but with the outbreak of war in August, from then till the end of December, the export of coal fell to almost one half less than in the corresponding months of last year, with the result that the total tonnage of coal exported for 1914 was almost one million tons less than 1913.

The work at the new staiths in the upper reaches of the river is steadily progressing.

During the year the imports of foodstuffs were practically nil, and in no case was it necessary to take action under The Public Health (Regulation of Food) Act, 1907.

The herring fishing came to an early termination in August, owing to the Naval Authorities declaring the North Sea a war zone, only 562 trawlers and drifters using the port in 1914, as against 4788 entries in 1913.

WATER SUPPLY—The water-boats were inspected and found satisfactory. The majority of the vessels are supplied by the Blyth and Bedlington Urban District Councils.

The number of vessels from suspected ports was 3 but no infectious disease was found amongst the crews.

I made 24 special visits to ships in the harbour, but no trace of infectious disease was found.

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ISOLATION HOSPITAL—During the year 64 patients were admitted, viz.—

Scarlet Fever - - - -	43
Typhoid Fever - - - -	19
Diphtheria - - - -	2
Total -	64

Scarlet Fever - - -	27	discharged (cured.)
Enteric Fever - - -	13	" "
Diphtheria - -	2	" "
Scarlet Fever - - -	2	died in Hospital.
Enteric Fever - - -	3	" "
Scarlet Fever - -	16	Remained under treatment
Typhoid Fever - - -	2	on December 31st, 1914.

All the cases of Infectious Disease were sent in by the Blyth Urban District Council, except 1 case of Typhoid from the Port Sanitary Authority.

Nurse Dingwall from the Grafton Street, Hospital, Liverpool, commenced her duties on 1st August.

I desire to express my thanks to Mr. Harris, Sanitary Inspector, and the staff at the Hospital.

Copies of this report will be sent to the Local Government Board and the Northumberland County Council.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES MORTON MacLACHLAN, M.B.C.M.

Medical Officer of Health.

HOSPITAL TABLE.

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st. 1914.

No	Date of Admission.	Names.	Age.	Residence.	Disease.	Date of Discharge.	By whom sent.
1	Jan. 6th	Peter Birney	3½	3½ Tweedy street, Cowpen	Scarlet Fever	Died Jan. 7th	B.U.D.C.
2	,, 6th	Nancy Birney	5	do.	do.	Feb. 14th	do.
3	,, 19th	Rebecca Gibson	34	19 Columbia terrace, Blyth	Enteric Fever	Feb. 28th	do.
4	,, 29th	Fred Gandon	11	13 Croft road, Blyth	Scarlet Fever	March 18th	do.
5	,, 31st	Louisa Gandon	12	do.	do.	March 18th	do.
6	Feb. 9th	Edna Bushell	5	19 Richard street, Blyth	do.	March 21st	do.
7	,, 9th	Evelyn Bushell	7	do.	do.	March 21st	do.
8	,, 17th	Winnie Gandon	9	13 Croft road, Blyth	do.	April 4th	do.
9	,, 21st	Jennie Loftus	6	19 High street, Blyth	do.	April 11th	do.
10	Mar. 10th	Isabella Loftus	3	do.	do.	April 11th	do.
11	,, 16th	Emma Cornick	16½	95 Cragside Place, Blyth	do.	April 27th	do
12	,, 16th	William Cornick	13	do.	do.	April 27th	do.
13	,, 17th	Ethel Richie	10	88 Gladstone street, Blyth	do.	April 27th	do.
14	April 17th	James Ducat	14	20 Wright street, Blyth	do.	June 3rd	do.
15	May 6th	Mary Ann Wilson	31	9 Holmside place, Blyth	do.	June 10th	do.
16	,, 6th	Georgina Wilson	8	do.	do.	June 6th	do.
17	,, 6th	Hannah Wilson	2-9	do.	do.	June 10th	do.
18	,, 6th	Edith Wilson	6	do.	do.	June 10th	do.
19	,, 6th	William J Wilson	4	do.	do.	June 10th	do.
20	,, 8th	Norman Barnes	7	Cragside Place, Blyth	do.	June 6th	do.
21	,, 21st	Cissie Westhall	4	3 Railway street, Newsham	do.	July 1st	do.
22	,, 23rd	Elizabeth H. Payne	36	3 Delaval terrace, Blyth	Enteric Fever	July 14th	do.
23	June 8th	Graham Farquharson	6	38 Rosemary terrace, Blyth	Scarlet Fever	July 13th	do.
24	,, 25th	Isabella Graham	12	North Farm Cottages, Blyth	do.	August 15th	do.
25	July 2nd	George Graham	16	do.	do.	August 17th	do.
26	,, 7th	Esther Quinn	6	Cowpen Colliery	do.	August 15th	do.
27	,, 13th	Katie Brack	7	Clive street, Blyth	do.	August 22nd	do.
28	,, 16th	Esther May Reed	7	44 Cragside Place, Blyth	do.	August 22nd	do.
29	,, 21st	Nicholas Temack	18	S.S. Lucy	Enteric Fever	September 23rd	R.B.P.S A.
30	Aug. 12th	Percy M. Godfrey	6	17 Columbia terrace, Blyth	do	Died August 23rd	B U.D.C.
31	,, 24th	George Hodgson	7	16 Sidney street, Blyth	do	September 26th	do.
32	Sept. 23rd	James W. Crawford	33	180 Disraeli street, Blyth	do.	November 18th	do.
33	Oct. 2nd	Eli James Searle	16	22 Croft road. Blyth	do.	November 13th	do.
34	,, 3rd	Robert Payne	37	3 Delaval terrace, Blyth	do.	November 18th	do.
35	,, 12th	James Graham	67	Blyth	do.	Died October 13th	do.
36	,, 12th	John J. Forster	32	11 Back Sproat street, Blyth	do.	November 18th	do.
37	,, 15th	Herbert H. Wiggett	25	2 Richard street, Blyth	do.	November 18th	do.
38	,, 15th	Lizzie Gaines	13	4 Clive street, Blyth	do.	November 13th	do.
39	,, 19th	Lily Elgey	14	11 Seaforth street, Blyth	do.	Died November 10th	do.
40	,, 22nd	Edward Elliott	21	Cross street, Cowpen Square	do.	November 13th	do.
41	,, 27th	Charlie Moore	9	Bebside Furnace	do.	December 15th	do.
42	Nov. 5th	George Bower	23	Wykeham terrace, Crofton	do.	December 16th	do.
43	,, 24th	Archie Inglis	18	21 Howick street, Alnwick	Diphtheria	December 2nd	do.
44	,, 27th	John Harvey	24	Smeafield Station, Belford	do.	December 9th	do.
45	,, 27th	Norman Groves	18	1 Beech Grove, Wallsend	Scarlet Fever	Died December 1st	do.
46	,, 30th	Leslie Bell	19	Blackhill House, Haydon Bridge	do.	January 16th, 1915	do.
47	,, 30th	James Turnbull	19	11 Park Parade, Whitley Bay	do	January 14th	do.
48	Dec. 1st	Herbert Dodds	22	Prospect House, Lemington	do.	December 30th, 1914	do.
49	,, 1st	Fred Webb	21	High Angerton, Morpeth	do	January 16th, 1915	do.
50	,, 2nd	Charlotte Gaines	15	4 Clive street. Blyth	Enteric Fever	January 4th	do
51	,, 2nd	Robert Johnson	19	Police Station, Long Benton	Scarlet Fever	January 18th	do.
52	,, 4th	John Simpson	20	Cartmore rd Stoney, Stanton, Leic.	do.	January 18th	do.
53	,, 5th	Annie Moorhouse	14	132 Stanley street, Blyth	Enteric Fever	January 18th	do.
54	,, 8th	Ernest Richardson	17	Ovington-on-Tyne	Scarlet Fever	January 20th	do.
55	,, 10th	Fred Harvey	23	New Ridley Road, Stocksfield	do.	January 20th	do.
56	,, 10th	William Peart	20	Moorhouses, Matfen, Corbridge	do	January 23rd	do.
57	,, 11th	Michael Robson	21	Halskyle Bank, Hexham	do.	January 23rd	do.
58	,, 12th	Jake Nixon	29	10 Sperman terrace, Newburn	do.	January 23rd	do.
59	,, 12th	Joseph Robson	21	Ellwood Farm, Barrasford	do.	January 20th	do.
60	,, 14th	Albert Clarricoates	19	The Stables Branston Hall Lincoln	do.	January 23rd	do.
61	,, 14th	Charles Andrews	19	4 Evelyn Gardens, So. Benwell	do.	January 23rd	do.
62	,, 14th	George Smith	27	3 Home Cottages, Haughton Castle	do.	January 23rd	do.
63	,, 14th	Ethel Moorhouse	16	132 Stanley street, Blyth	Enteric Fever	January 18th	do.
64	,, 25th	James N. J. Spencer	19	Wallbottle Hall, Northd.	Scarlet Fever	Dec. 26th, 1914	do.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

3½, Plessey Terrace, Blyth,
4th February, 1915.

To the Medical Officer of Health
River Blyth Port Sanitary Authority.

SIR,—I most respectfully submit the following report of the number of British and Foreign Vessels arrived at this Port during the year 1914:—

	Foreign.	Coastwise.	Total.
British Steam	211	535	746
British Sailing	1	61	62
Foreign Steam	1137	586	1723
Foreign Sailing	10	21	31
			2562
British Steam Trawlers and Drifters			527
Foreign Steam Trawlers			5
Total Arrivals			3094

Register Tonnage, exclusive of Trawlers.....1,828,677.

Number of Vessels found defective in structural arrangements and saintary defects:—

VESSELS.	Structural Arrangements.		Sanitary Defects.		Total.
	Foreign.	Coastwise.	Foreign.	Coastwise.	
British Steam	14	17	20	30	81
British Sailing	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	3
Foreign Steam	Nil	Nil	58	39	97
Foreign Sailing	Nil	Nil	2	3	5
					186

STRUCTURAL DEFECTS.

Overhead decks and beams not covered causing damp beds and forecastle	1
Leakage in forecastles causing dampness	4
Defective side ports in forecastles	21
Defective stoves causing smoke in forecastles	5
	31

SANITARY DEFECTS.

Forecastles not clean	80
Deck water closets not clean	69
Bilges not clean	1
Fumigating of vessels	2
Drinking water unfit for use	1
Inadequate draining in water closet	1
Defective chain locker in forecastle	1
	155

TABLE OF SICKNESS, 1914.

Date.		Name of Vessel.	Where from.	Rating.	Nationality.	Nature of Sickness.
Jan.	9th	W. J. Radcliffe	Rotterdam	App. and fireman	British	Catarrh
,,	9th	Jane Radcliffe	London	Boatswain	British	Fell overboard, injured head
,,	14th	Mod	Tyne	2nd Engineer	Norwegian	Inflammation
,,	14th	Mod	Tyne	Fireman	Norwegian	Indigestion
,,	20th	Normandiet	Libau	Mess-room Boy	Danish	Broken Arm
Feb.	9th	Vini	Bergen	Seaman and fireman	Norwegian	Catarrh
,,	19th	Brager	Hamburg	Fireman	Norwegian	Catarrh
Apr.	9th	Graf Strogonoff	Libau	Seaman	Russian	Injnred head
,,	13th	Altona	Hamburg	Seaman	German	Fell down hold
,,	13th	Foro	Hull	Steward	British	Cancer—Returned home
May	4th	Djero	Bremen	2nd Mate	Norwegian	Inflammation, removed to K.M. Hos.
June	1st	Glitra	Grangemouth	Mess-room Boy	Norwegian	Catarrh
,,	2nd	Taarnborg	Rouen	Seaman	Danish	Catarrh
,,	8th	Eddi	Antwerp	Seaman	German	Catarrh
,,	12th	Adrara	Rotterdam	2nd Mate	German	Rheumatism, removed to K.M. Hos.
,,	22nd	Augusta Helmerich	Rouen	Seaman	German	Catarrh,
,,	25th	Teutonic	Rotterdam	2nd Engineer	British	Rheumatism
July	16th	Lucy	Rotterdam	Seaman	Russian	Typhoid Fever, rem. to K.M. Hos.
Sept.	17th	Biscaya	Copenhagen	Captain	Norwegian	Catarrh
,,	14th	Sirius	St. Nazaire	Seaman	Russian	Rheumatism
Oct.	3rd	Balder	Mariefjord	2nd Engineer	Norwegian	Rheumatism
,,	14th	Novorossia	Archangel	Captain	Russian	Rheumatism
,,	26th	Saga	Raumo		Norwegian	
Nov.	9th	Biscaya	Krisalnabor	Capt. and 2 seamen	Norwegian	Catarrh
,,	11th	Sneland	Stockton	Captain	Norwegian	Inflammation in Eyes.
,,	18th	Anna Greta	Esbjerg	Seaman	Swedish	Fell down hold
,,	19th	Benor	Demarara	Seaman	Russian	Removed to K.M. Hospital
,,	24th	Camma	Caen	1st Engineer	Norwegian	Catarrh
,,	27th	Bryssel	Rouen	Fireman	Danish	Catarrh
Dec.	3rd	Normand	Rotterdam	Captain	Norwegian	Accidentally shot himself and wife
,,	18th	Kronprins Olaf	Rouen	Captain	Norwegian	Catarrh
,,	18th	Baltic	Caen	Seaman & donkeyman	Norwegian	Removed to K.M. Hospital

Table of Nationalities arrived during 1914—

British	808
Norwegian	873
Danish	304
Swedish	230
Russian	108
German	154
Dutch	27
Belgian	11
French	35
Spanish	10
Greek	1
Italian	1
	2562

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN J. HARRIS.